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Docket No.: 050395-0369

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Kohei SHIMODA, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 4687
Application No.: 10/575,898	:	Group Art Unit: 4116
Filed: April 14, 2006	:	Examiner: Christine Chen
For: GRANULAR METAL POWDER	:	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The references were first cited in a corresponding European Search Report and its relevance is discussed therein. A copy of the European Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information.

10/575,898

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,
including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to
such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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